

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, in open session, to receive testimony on the defense authorization request for fiscal year 1996 and the future years defense program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be permitted to meet Tuesday, March 7, 1995, in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing through most of the day, to conduct a hearing on the Federal Communications Commission's tax certificate program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. to hold a hearing on the consideration of ratification of the convention on conventional weapons (Treaty Doc. 103-25).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, at 2:00 p.m. to hold a hearing on the overview of United States policy toward South Asia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, beginning at 10 a.m., in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building on Federal programs authorized to address the challenges facing Indian youth.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday March 7, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. to hold a hearing on the jury and the search for truth.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on health professions consolidation and

reauthorization, during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 1995 at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the legislative presentation of The Veterans of Foreign Wars. The hearing will be held on March 7, 1995, at 9:30 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DRINKING WATER, FISHERIES, AND WILDLIFE

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Drinking Water, Fisheries, and Wildlife be granted permission to meet Tuesday, March 7, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a legislative hearing on S. 191 and other pending proposals to institute a moratorium on certain activities under authority of the Endangered Species Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS AND FISHERIES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on March 7, 1995, at 2:30 p.m. on appropriations for the U.S. Coast Guard in fiscal year 1996.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, for purposes of conducting a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Lands, of the House Committee on Resources, which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony from officials of the General Accounting Office regarding their on-going study on the health of the National Park System.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BUDGET AMENDMENT'S TIME HAS COME

• Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, there was of a variety of comment before the vote on the balanced budget amendment, one of the more sensible appearing in the Buffalo News, written by Douglas Turner.

I ask that the column be printed in the RECORD.

The column follows:

[From the Buffalo News, Feb. 27, 1995]

BUDGET AMENDMENT'S TIME HAS COME; THE DEMOCRATS ARE MORTGAGING THEIR FUTURE BY OPPOSING IT

(By Douglas Turner)

WASHINGTON.—Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan predicted on Friday that the Senate will defeat a proposed amendment to the Constitution calling for a balanced federal budget.

If he's right, and the learned New York Democrat quite often is, that Senate action will squelch the bill that easily passed the House last month.

The crucial Senate vote will probably come Wednesday or Thursday.

Loss of the amendment will not be good for the country. Fighting this idea whose time has come will also be a calamitous loser for the Democrats. They won't get the Senate back in 1996 or 1998 if they win on this week's roll call.

It guarantees returning the Republicans to control of the House after next year's elections.

House GOP Campaign chairman Bill Paxon will say a bigger Republican majority is needed to offer up this amendment again.

If the amendment fails, the states will be denied their opportunity to vote on the measure. This will insult our embattled federal system. Belief in our national system is already under heavy attack from junkyard dog conservatives.

Defeat will be the same as Washington Democrats saying to the nation: "We know you have a legal right to consider this popular idea, but we don't trust you, not even your sophisticated state legislatures, enough for you to consider it." Dumb.

"Popular" doesn't describe the momentum behind the balanced budget idea. Eighty percent of the nation wants this amendment. Even in liberal New York State, support is overwhelming.

Moynihan is one of the Democrats who does believe voters are smart enough to understand. He has spent days, weeks, honing and delivering his arguments against the amendment. He's published a small booklet about it, and gave a lengthy floor address last week. He talked about it on "Meet the Press" again yesterday.

Central to their arguments, and Moynihan's, is their concern for loss of flexibility. The amendment, they say, will deprive Congress of the ability to infuse a sinking economy with enough federal money to restore its vigor.

We'd be inviting a sustained economic Depression, they say. Moynihan devised a chart that shows the big spikes in the national economy before 1940. These show crippling variations in gross national product, up and down by as much as 15 percent in the span of a couple of years.

Post-1940 variations are mild, and generally positive, on this chart. These came after the massive New Deal expansion of the government bureaucracy and the practice of "counter-cyclical" federal spending.

The chart is an icon to a generation of politicians and professors steeped in the Keynesian tradition of demand economics.

The chart looks good until you think about it. First, it credits special surges in federal spending for the relative stability of the post-war economy. But it ignores the role of such income support programs as Social Security, and the importance of the labor movement as post-war stabilizers.

It also ignores the fact that the most celebrated "counter-cyclical" spending (not